

## *Megascops asio* (Eastern Screech-owl)

### Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

**Class:** Aves (Birds)  
**Order:** Strigiformes (Owls)  
**Family:** Strigidae (Typical Owls)

#### General comments:

Inadequate information hinders status determination. Limited observations of summer/breeding activity - nest documentation in York and Kittery (~2000). Injured adult recovered on Therrian Ave, Saco on 8/11/14. No documentation of roadkill specimens or observations within HMAP.

#### Species Conservation Range Maps for Eastern Screech-owl:

Town Map: [Megascops asio Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Megascops asio\\_HUC12.pdf](#)

#### SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

**Risk of Extirpation:** NA

**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:**

*Megascops asio* is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.

**Recent Significant Declines:** NA

**Regional Endemic:** NA

**High Regional Conservation Priority:** NA

**High Climate Change Vulnerability:** NA

**Understudied rare taxa:**

Recently documented or poorly surveyed rare species for which risk of extirpation is potentially high (e.g. few known occurrences) but insufficient data exist to conclusively assess distribution and status. \*criteria only qualifies for Priority 3 level SGCN\*

Notes:

Inadequate information hinders status determination. Limited observations of summer/breeding activity - nest documentation in York and Kittery (~2000). No documentation of roadkill specimens or observations within HMAP.

**Historical:** NA

**Culturally Significant:** NA

#### Habitats Assigned to Eastern Screech-owl:

##### Formation Name      Boreal Upland Forest

Macrogroup Name      Boreal Upland Forest

Habitat System Name: Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest

Habitat System Name: Acadian Sub-boreal Spruce Flat

Habitat System Name: Boreal Jack Pine-Black Spruce Forest

##### Formation Name      Developed

Macrogroup Name      Urban-Suburban Built

Habitat System Name: Commercial-Industrial

Habitat System Name: Residential - High Intensity

Habitat System Name: Residential - Low Intensity

Habitat System Name: Residential - Medium Intensity

##### Formation Name      Northeastern Upland Forest

Macrogroup Name      Central Oak-Pine

Habitat System Name: Central Appalachian Dry Oak-Pine Forest

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#### **Formation Name      Northeastern Upland Forest**

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**Habitat System Name:** North Atlantic Coastal Plain Hardwood Forest

**Macrogroup Name      Exotic Upland Forest**

**Habitat System Name:** Introduced Upland Vegetation - Tree

**Macrogroup Name      Northern Hardwood & Conifer**

**Habitat System Name:** Appalachian (Hemlock)-Northern Hardwood Forest

**Habitat System Name:** Laurentian-Acadian Northern Hardwoods Forest

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#### **Formation Name      Northeastern Wetland Forest**

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**Macrogroup Name      Northeastern Floodplain Forest**

**Habitat System Name:** Laurentian-Acadian Floodplain Systems

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### **Stressors Assigned to Eastern Screech-owl:**

No Stressors Currently Assigned to Eastern Screech-owl or other Priority 3 SGCN.

### **Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Eastern Screech-owl:**

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Eastern Screech-owl or other Priority 3 SGCN.

### **Guild Level Conservation Actions:**

This Species is currently not attributed to a guild.

### **Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:**

Relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

### **Habitat Based Conservation Actions:**

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

*The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.*